

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

Council of the Faculty of Arts and Science

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, January 17, 1992

- Present: G. Valaskakis; M. Yates; B. Harris; P. Bird; F. Stevens; C. White; C. Foster; J. Appleby; R. Pallen; E. Preston; G. Kanaan; B. Lewis; G. Fisher; W. Knitter; G. Auchinachie; J. Woodsworth; W. Sellers; J. Anderson; S. Kumarapeli; G. Decarie; J. Fiset; L. Crysler; C. Lévy; J. Locke; P. Allen; A. Teffeteller; C. Gray; R. Sharma; N. Segalowitz; I. Robinson; M. Ainley; S. Hoecker-Drysdale; C. Potworowski; J. Snyder; J. Vidmar; D. Awasti; K. Beaudoin; E. Chan; K. Clément; D. Haufschild; A. Leonhardt; B. Leonhardt; C. McManaman; C. Nero; D. Parent.
- Regrets: S. Carter; P. Widden; M. Brian; M. Mendell; W. Byers; M. Poirier; M. Pruska-Carroll.
- Absent: J. Lightstone; M. Kusy; J. Gavin; H. McQueen; P. Albert; G. Newsham; J.F. Plamondon; H. Halsell; M. Innes; G. Pahinis.
- Guests: P. Calce.

Documents Distributed and Considered at this meeting:

- ASFC 92-1M-A Elections/Ratification - Arts and Science Faculty Committees
- ASFC 92-1M-B Ratification of honorary degree nominees for 1992 Arts and Science Convocations
- ASFC 92-1M-C Motion on Library Budgets from Arts and Science Faculty Council's Steering Committee
- ASFC 92-1M-D Response from Secretary-General to Resolutions passed at ASFC meeting of November 29 regarding Procedures for Evaluation Committees and Advisory Search Committees
- ASFC 92-1M-E Memo to Arts and Science Faculty Council from D. Awasti, Students Caucus Leader re Submission of Students' Representative name for Advisory Search Committee for Dean of Arts and Science

1. Call to Order

Dr. Valaskakis called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

92-1M-1 It was moved and seconded (Preston/Sellers) that the Agenda be approved as circulated.

Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes

92-1M-2 It was moved and seconded (Robinson/Segalowitz) that the minutes of the Arts and Science Faculty Council meeting held November 15, 1991, be approved as circulated, with the following corrections:

Page 5, 5th paragraph: Dr. Pallen noted that three new faculty were required. He wished to know whether this requirement would be met by Quebec once the program was approved or whether this would deplete the pool of new faculty for other programs.

Page 6: "chauvinistic" replaces "slovenistic"

Carried.

92-1M-3 It was moved and seconded (Preston/Segalowitz) that the minutes of the Arts and Science Faculty Council meeting held November 29, 1991, be approved as circulated, with the following corrections:

Page 19, last line: Dr. Bertrand said he would not allow the text of the motion to be changed once ...

Page 2, last line: It seemed to him that it was up to Council if they wished to ratify or take a vote on it.

Page 19, 5th paragraph, second line: Dr. Sheinin, suggested at the time that there should be proper consultation amongst the academic community. He personally alerted the Dean and CUFA that this was being set up, not knowing that the Board of Governors was going to make it public.

Mr. Haufschild felt that a question he had raised on further planning with regard to the issue of the space plan had been omitted as well as a rather lengthy response.

Carried.

4. **Remarks from the Chair**

Dr. Valaskakis welcomed everyone at Council to the New Year. She expressed her pleasure at attending Council and said that she looked forward to working with Council this term.

5. **Questions and Announcements**

Dr. Valaskakis remarked that a number of people had asked about the Strategic Space Plan and where it was in the system. She reported that it had gone forward to Quebec but no details had as yet been released on what had been submitted. She had asked and was told that a 2-page handout would be available as well as a summary of the report that went to Quebec City which should be in *Concordia's Thursday Report* early the following week.

Ms. Beaudoin asked if the letter that had been requested at the last meeting of Council from the Board of Governors regarding Mr. David Parent's suitability for the Advisory Search Committee for a Dean of Arts and Science had been received.

Dr. Valaskakis responded that she had some information and that she would respond to Ms. Beaudoin during the next item on the Agenda.

6. **Elections/Ratification - Arts and Science Faculty Committees**

**Arts and Science Faculty Council**

92-1M-4 It was moved and seconded (Beaudoin/Haufschild) that Arts and Science Faculty Council approved the nomination of Eleanor Brown, Sophie Desjardins, Bill Leonhardt, Charlene Nero and Phil Toone.  
**Ratified**

**Arts and Science Computer Resources Committee**

92-1M-5 It was moved and seconded (Parent/A. Leonhardt) that Arts and Science Faculty Council approve the nomination of Bill Leonhardt.  
**Ratified**

**Arts and Science Faculty Panel (Academic Regulations Regarding Cheating)**

92-1M-6 It was moved and seconded (Beaudoin/A. Leonhardt) that Arts and Science Faculty Council approve the nomination of Chris McManaman and David Parent.  
**Ratified**

**Arts and Science Committee on General Education**  
92-1M-7 It was moved and seconded (Beaudoin/B. Leonhardt) that Arts and Science Faculty Council approve the nomination of Aaron Leonhardt.  
**Ratified**

**Arts and Science Faculty Appeal Committee (Regulations Regarding Academic Re-evaluation)**  
92-1M-8 It was moved and seconded (A. Leonhardt/B. Leonhardt) that Arts and Science Faculty Council approve the nomination of Kriss Clément.  
92-1M-9 It was moved and seconded (B. Leonhardt/K. Clément) that Arts and Science Faculty Council approve the nomination of Chris McManaman and Aaron Leonhardt as alternates.  
**Ratified**

**Arts and Science Faculty Honours Committee**  
92-1M-10 It was moved and seconded (A. Leonhardt/McManaman) that Arts and Science Faculty Council approved the nomination of Daniel Haufschild.  
**Ratified**

**Arts and Science Student Request Committee**  
92-1M-11 It was moved and seconded (Clément/McManaman) that Arts and Science Faculty Council approve the nomination of Bill Leonhardt.  
**Ratified**

**Advisory Search Committee for the Dean of Arts and Science**  
There was no name put forward by the students. Dr. Valaskakis referred Council to Document ASFC 92-1M-E.

Dr. Valaskakis read the text of a letter which she had received from the Secretary-General:

"Further to our conversation of 9 January, 1992, this is to confirm that the Board of Governors' decision not to elect Mr. David Parent as a member of the Advisory Search Committee for a Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science was based on the concepts of conflict of interest and bias. For this to be a valid objection, one does not have to prove the existence of an actual bias or conflict of interest, (the latter arising from the fact that Mr. Parent initiated a lawsuit against the university). Legal doctrine and jurisprudence both clearly indicate that the mere appearance of bias or conflict of interest, or the reasonable likelihood thereof, are sufficient to disqualify a member of any such committee. Although a selection committee is not a judicial or a quasi-judicial body, it is bound by the duty to act fairly, and as such it must follow the rules of

natural justice. One of the two major rules of natural justice is the rule against bias. Therefore, were Mr. Parent to participate in the deliberations of the selection committee, his presence would invalidate the whole process. The Board of Governors cannot let this happen and it is the Board's responsibility to ensure that all committees established under its aegis are impartial and beyond reproach."

Mr. Parent said that he thought that conflict of interest or its potential, as defined by Mme. Gaudet, was somewhat vague. He said that by the same rules it would be appropriate for all members of the Advisory Search Committee for a Dean to resign, as they could potentially be in the same situation as he found himself. They were not in a legal lawsuit but the basis of this decision had been potential bias. He was biased because of a legal lawsuit, but bias could be inherent in these people in other ways and other forms. He suggested to Council that everybody on the committee should resign due to the fact that they could equally be in a potential conflict of interest situation as the definition as put forward by the Board of Governors was very vague.

Dr. Valaskakis noted Mr. Parent's comments. She felt the situation was quite different with regard to the other members of that committee because they were not involved in a lawsuit against the university and were not in an adversarial situation with people who could conceivably come forward as nominees for the position.

Mr. Parent said that because of the fact of confidentiality, he could never prove that he was not or was not going to be in conflict of interest as he could not sit on the committee as a ratified member. He argued that since members of the search committee were bound by confidentiality they could not inform anyone who the potential candidates were and therefore the situation was one that could never be resolved. He found this situation very ironic because he personally had had his own confidentiality breached by the administration.

Dr. Valaskakis expressed her understanding of Mr. Parent's concerns but pointed out that the perception of conflict of interest and the perception of bias was central to the Board's decision. She felt that this issue had been discussed in some detail at previous Council meetings and although she was sympathetic she felt that this was not the time to continue the discussion. She had read the letter for the record as requested by Council but was unwilling to open up a debate on it.

## **NOTICE OF ELECTION**

### **Advisory Search Committees for the Appointment of Chairperson for 1991-92**

Department of Biology  
 Department of Classics  
 Department of Education  
 Department of English  
 Department of Geology  
 Department of Mathematics and Statistics  
 Department of Philosophy  
 Department of Physics  
 Department of Political Science  
 Department of Theological Studies

### **Advisory Search Committees for the Appointment of Principal/Director for 1991-92**

Journalism  
 Leisure Studies  
 Library Studies  
 Lonergan University College

Dr. Valaskakis asked that Council remove Ph.D. in Humanities from the list as this was a doctoral program and not a department.

#### **7. Ratification of Nominees for June 1992 Arts and Science Convocation**

Dr. Decarie said that the names of six nominees were submitted and while all six were excellent candidates, it appeared that four were more appropriate for Arts and Science Spring Convocation and that two were more appropriate for Fall Convocation when all faculties were together.

**92-1M-12**    **It was moved and seconded (Decarie/Hoecker-Drysdale) that Arts and Science Faculty Council approve four nominees for Honourary Degrees at Spring Convocation 1992 and two nominees for Honourary Degrees at Fall Convocation 1992.**

Dr. Decarie gave a brief biography of each candidate.

Dr. Valaskakis reminded Council that the information on Honourary Degree nominations was confidential until the recommendations were approved by the



Board of Governors.

Ms. Clément enquired if other names might be submitted for the Fall Convocation either by the students or other members of Council.

Dr. Valaskakis said that names could still be put forward to the Graduation Ceremonies Committee for consideration for the Fall Convocation. She explained to Council that Arts and Science, in the past, had been poorly represented in terms of nominations forwarded to the Graduation Ceremonies Committee. She encouraged people to put forward names for Fall Convocation and reminded Council that nominations remained active for three years.

**Carried.**

Dr. Pallen, as a member of the Graduation Ceremonies Committee, agreed with Dr. Valaskakis. He noted that Arts and Science was the only faculty this year that did not present a list of nominees to the Graduation Ceremonies committee.

Dr. Hoecker-Drysdale said that Steering Committee was concerned about the lack of interest in this endeavour from the faculty of Arts and Science. She suggested that in future Arts and Science should be active in nominating people in order to avoid the situation we found ourselves in this year and intended to move a motion to this effect.

**92-1M-13      It was moved and seconded (Hoecker-Drysdale/Decarie) that Council establish a committee of two faculty members and one student to coordinate nominations for Honourary Degrees with the support of the Dean's Office.**

Dr. Hoecker-Drysdale said that the committee could work with the support of the Dean's Office and with Department Chairs as a facilitating body to ensure that Arts and Science would have nominees for Honourary Degrees each year.

Ms. Beaudoin said that the matter had been discussed at Students Caucus and the students would like representation on that committee.

Dr. Auchinachie asked if this would be an additional duty for Chairs; he personally felt over-burdened. He wished this job to be given to someone other than the Chair.

Dr. Hoecker-Drysdale explained that she did not wish to imply that we should burden Chairs with another task but she would like Council to ask Chairs to mention it under Chair's remarks in departmental meetings. She felt that this topic was not ever discussed at departmental meetings and that it was from departments that names could be generated.

Dr. Valaskakis said that the committee could aid Chairs in this task. In her experience on the Graduation Ceremonies Committee, the task sounded more burdensome than it was. Biographical information of possible nominees was readily available in the library in *Who's Who in Canada*.

**Carried.**

Dr. Valaskakis undertook to take this resolution to Steering Committee so that a Committee could be struck for this purpose. She invited everyone at Council to submit names for this committee.

**8. Motion on Library Budgets**

Acting Dean Valaskakis mentioned that at the Arts and Science Faculty Council meeting held on November 15, 1991, there was quite a lengthy discussion on the library budget crisis but at the end of that discussion, there were no motions put forward by Council. This was discussed at Steering Committee and there was quite an interest in having Council's concern about this issue put on record.

**92-1M-14** It was moved and seconded (Hoecker-Drysdale/Auchinachie) that the following reflected the position of the Arts and Science Faculty Council with respect to the library budget situation:

- 1. Arts and Science Faculty Council is extremely disturbed by the budget crisis in the library.**
- 2. Arts and Science Faculty Council wants to emphasize that both serials and monographs are important to a Faculty of Arts and Science. Council therefore urges the University to use whatever means possible to maintain a reasonable balance between the two collections.**
- 3. Arts and Science Faculty Council is concerned about the delay in the appointment of a Director of Libraries and expects that a Director will be appointed shortly.**

Ms. Appleby commented on the motion and suggested that the motion be amended to be presented as two motions separating the first two points from the third; the first motion would cover the first two points and the second would address the issue of the Director. She pointed out that the Library had an Acting Director at the present time. She also pointed out that the library needed to maintain its purchasing power overall. It was not a question of moving money from serials to monographs or of maintaining a balance; the problem was simply that there was not enough money. If the budget was not increased for next year, not only would the monographs be reduced but so also would the serials.



- 92-1M-15** It was moved and seconded (Hoecker-Drysdale/Auchinachie) that the motion be amended to read:

**Arts and Science Faculty Council is extremely disturbed by the budget crisis in the library.**

**Arts and Science Faculty Council wants to emphasize that both serials and monographs are important to a Faculty of Arts and Science. Council therefore urges the University to use whatever means possible to maintain the purchasing power of both serials and monographs.**

- 92-1M-16** It was moved and seconded (Hoecker-Drysdale/Auchinachie) that another motion be moved on the question of a permanent director of libraries:

**Arts and Science Faculty Council is concerned about the delay in the appointment of a permanent Director of Libraries and expects that a permanent director will be appointed shortly.**

- 92-1M-17** It was moved and seconded (Hoecker-Drysdale/Auchinachie) that Arts and Science Faculty Council request that the University Library Committee submit a report to Council annually so that Council is kept informed of the situation in the library.

Dr. Valaskakis said that at Senate she learned that a permanent director of the libraries would be announced by June of the current year.

Mr. Awasti explained that 'whatever means possible' in the second paragraph of the first motion meant that the technology was available at the moment to facilitate hook-ups with computer networks and on-line systems that allowed access to monographs and serials without going into hard copies. He hoped that the university would go in that direction in order to minimize the cost of serials and monograph acquisition rather than the purchase of hard copies.

Dr. Auchinachie said that he was embarrassed that a member of his department had suggested that student fees be increased by \$50 to solve the problem of underfunding - the idea had been rejected. He wanted it known that faculty in Arts in Science had a \$367.50 book allowance. He thought that \$150 of this allowance could be given to the libraries. He suggested that the university should mount a very snobby campaign - "Put a book in the library with your name on it". He mentioned that hard copies must be purchased for the Humanities. Although there was a pool of libraries in Montreal we still needed more books in our libraries. We needed to get creative about how to help, even if it meant faculty digging into their personal book allowance. It would be quite a bit of money if every faculty member donated even \$100.

Dr. Valaskakis said that she had passed on the 'Buy a Book' idea to the Capital Campaign and they thought it quite a good idea and were looking into it.

Ms. Appleby said that the library was quite advanced in technology and was taking advantage of the available technology. A very minimal percentage of periodicals was available in full text in electronic form. The library took advantage of it where possible but it was also very expensive. For example, the Social Sciences full-text database which the library acquired cost \$16,000 U.S. per year. It would probably prove to be too expensive to continue this kind of purchase. Electronic media was not the answer in History, English and even Commerce - it was geared more toward the sciences.

Dr. Hoecker-Drysdale expressed appreciation of Dr. Auchinachie's suggestion and reminded Council that the Annual Giving envelopes which were sent to every staff and faculty member would allow contributions to be designated for the library.

Mr. Awasti acknowledged the point made by Ms. Appleby but noted that Council did not always understand how the library was structured and managed. He hoped that an explanation of the library structure and decision-making process would be included in the Annual Report to be submitted to Council.

- 92-1M-15** It was moved and seconded (Hoecker-Drysdale/Auchinachie) that the following reflected the position of Arts and Science Faculty Council:

**Arts and Science Faculty Council is extremely disturbed by the budget crisis in the library.**

**Arts and Science Faculty Council wants to emphasize that both serials and monographs are important to a Faculty of Arts and Science. Council therefore urges the University to use whatever means possible to maintain the purchasing power of both serials and monographs.**

**Carried.**

- 92-1M-16** It was moved and seconded (Hoecker-Drysdale/Auchinachie) that Arts and Science Faculty Council is concerned about the delay in the appointment of a permanent Director of Libraries and expects a permanent director will be appointed shortly.

**Carried.**

- 92-1M-17** It was moved and seconded (Hoecker-Drysdale/Auchinachie) that Arts and

Science Faculty Council request that the University Library Committee submit a report to Council annually, so that Council is kept informed of the situation in the library.

Carried.

9. Response from Secretary-General to Resolutions passed at ASFC meeting of November 29 regarding Procedures for Evaluation Committees and Advisory Search Committees

Dr. Valaskakis reminded Council that this information was included with the Council documents and was tabled for information only.

10. Other Business

Mr. Awasti wished to return to the question of David Parent's rejection by the Board of Governors as a candidate to sit on the Advisory Search Committee for a Dean of Arts and Science.

Dr. Valaskakis said that the matter had been dealt with under Item 6 and would not allow Mr. Awasti to reopen the debate.

Mr. Awasti then asked that the Board of Governors provide Council with a response that was adequate and satisfied their need.

Dr. Valaskakis said that she felt that there was an enormous gap between the two positions. She had made a request to the Board of Governors for a written explanation, and she had read the response to her request. That was all the information that would be forthcoming.

11. Next Meeting of Council

The next meeting of Arts and Science Faculty Council would be Friday, February 21, 1992.

12. Adjournment

92-1M-18 It was moved and seconded (Segalowitz/White) that the meeting be adjourned at 4:06 p.m.